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Simon Chu

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EXAMINER

NEWAY, SAMUEL G

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2192

DATE MAILED: 12/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/674,841

Applicant(s)

CHU ET AL.

Examiner

Samuel G. Neway

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 September 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 10-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 10-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 – 8, and 10 – 19 are pending and are considered below.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 15 is objected to because of the following informalities: it is believed “program code for [and] downloading the first software”, at line 13, is a typographical error. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 5 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 5 is required to determine a physical location of the computer by using a GPS signal. It is unclear how any “downloading” can be performed when one of the conditions for downloading is that “the client computer does not detect a GPS signal” (claim 1, line 13). However, claim 5 requires the client computer to receive a GPS signal, thus there is never downloading of any software?

Claim 8 is required to determine a physical location of the computer by using a GPS signal. It is unclear how any “downloading” can be performed when one of the conditions for downloading is that “the client computer does not detect a GPS signal”

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(claim 1, line 13). However, claim 8 requires the client computer to receive a GPS signal, thus there is never downloading of any software?

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1, 5, 15, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kyotoku (USPGPub 2003/0110011).

6. As to claims 1, 15:

Kyotoku discloses a method and a product for regulating a download of a software from a server to a client computer on a network, the regulating being determined by a physical location of the client computer on which the software is to be downloaded (see Abstract), the method comprising:

storing a first list of authorized location ranges where a client computer is authorized to receive a download of a software from a server (paragraphs 50, 90);
determining a physical location of the client computer (paragraphs 55, 92);
comparing the physical location of the client computer with the first list of authorized location ranges (paragraphs 57, 93);

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downloading ("remote access") the first software only if the physical location of the client computer is within the range of one of the authorized location ranges from the first list of authorized location ranges (paragraph 94, figures 4 and 7);

downloading the first software only if a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver on the client computer does not detect a GPS signal ("installed in a clean room..." where it is difficult for GPS to reach, paragraph 72. If software is downloaded where GPS signal cannot reach (clean room), it is inherent that the downloading is done without the detection of a GPS signal).

As to claim 5, 18:

Kyotoku discloses wherein

storing a first list of authorized location ranges where a client computer is authorized to receive a download of a software from a server (paragraphs 50, 90);

determining a physical location of the client computer (paragraphs 55, 92);

comparing the physical location of the client computer with the first list of authorized location ranges (paragraphs 57, 93), and

the physical location of the computer is determined from a Global Positioning System (GPS) signal (paragraphs 55, 92).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious

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at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 2 – 4, 8, 10 – 12, 16 – 17, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kyotoku (USPGPub 2003/0110011) in view of Kraft, IV et al (USPN 6,931,130).

As to claims 2, 16:

Kyotoku discloses the method of claim 1, but he fails to specifically disclose the method further comprising: upon determining that the physical location of the client computer is not within the first list of authorized location ranges, requesting a download of a second software. However, Kraft discloses a similar method where GPS location is used to select and set different encryption levels (different downloads) depending on the physical location of a computer (Abstract, FIG 2, and related text). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to request a second or any number of other downloads (different encryption levels based upon the determined geographic location) in Kyotoku's method, as is done in Kraft's method by checking "a value in a look-up table that associates particular encryption levels with specified geographic locations" has been determined (col. 2, line 61 – col. 3, line 14). One would have been motivated to do so because that would enhance the Kyotoku system with an efficient as such "software can be distributed in any geographic region regardless of the region" as once suggested by Kraft (col. 1, lines 15-30)

As to claim 3:

Kyotoku and Kraft disclose the method of claim 2, further comprising: upon determining that the client computer is not located within an authorized area for the

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requested software download, generating an alert ("message") issued to a software administrator server (paragraph 84).

As to claims 4, 17:

Kyotoky and Kraft disclose the method of claim 2, wherein the lists of authorized location ranges are stored in the server (paragraph 93).

As to claim 8, 19:

Kyotoky discloses a system comprising:

means for storing a first list of authorized location ranges where a client computer is authorized to receive a download of a software from a server (paragraphs 50, 90);

means for determining a physical location of the client computer (paragraphs 55, 92);

means for comparing the physical location of the client computer with the first list of authorized location ranges (paragraphs 57, 93);

means for downloading ("remote access") the first software only if the physical location of the client computer is within the range of one of the authorized location ranges from the first list of authorized location ranges (paragraph 94, figures 4 and 7);

but he fails to specifically disclose the method further comprising: upon determining that the physical location of the client computer is not within the first list of authorized location ranges, requesting a download of a second software. However, Kraft discloses a similar method where GPS location is used to select and set different encryption levels (different downloads) depending on the physical location of a computer (Abstract, FIG 2, and related text). It would have been obvious to one of

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ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to request a second or any number of other downloads (different encryption levels based upon the determined geographic location) in Kyotoku's method, as is done in Kraft's method by checking "a value in a look-up table that associates particular encryption levels with specified geographic locations" has been determined (col. 2, line 61 – col. 3, line 14). One would have been motivated to do so because that would enhance the Kyotoku system with an efficient as such "software can be distributed in any geographic region regardless of the region" as once suggested by Kraft (col. 1, lines 15-30)

As to claim 10:

Kyotoky and Kraft disclose the system of claim 8, further comprising: upon determining that the client computer is not located within an authorized area for the requested software download, generating an alert ("message") issued to a software administrator server (paragraph 84).

As to claim 11:

Kyotoky and Kraft disclose the system of claim 8, wherein the lists of authorized location ranges are stored in the server (paragraph 93).

As to claim 12:

Kyotoky and Kraft disclose the system of claim 8, wherein the physical location of the computer is determined from a Global Positioning System (GPS) signal (paragraphs 55, 92).

9. Claims 6 –7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kyotoku in view of Wall (USPGPub 2002/0017977).

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As to claim 6:

Kyotoky discloses the method of claim 1, but does not disclose the method wherein the physical location of the computer is determined from a local enterprise generated signal. Wall discloses a similar system to control the use of software by use of location where "satellites or other alternate paths" are used to determine location (paragraphs 109, 110). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use Wall's other alternative path such as local enterprise generated signal to determine physical location. One would have been motivated to use the local enterprise generated signal to determine location in case it is difficult to use GPS for example where GPS broadcast wave cannot reach a GPS receiver.

As to claim 7:

Kyotoky, Kraft and Wall disclose the method of claim 6, Kyotoku further discloses the method wherein the local enterprise generated signal is confined to a single room ("clean room", paragraph 72).

10. Claims 13 – 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kyotoku in view Kraft and in further view of Wall (USPGPub 2002/0017977).

As to claim 13:

Kyotoky and Kraft disclose the method of claim 8, but does not disclose the method wherein the physical location of the computer is determined from a local enterprise generated signal. Wall discloses a similar system to control the use of software by use of location where "satellites or other alternate paths" are used to

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determine location (paragraphs 109, 110). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use Wall's other alternative path such as local enterprise generated signal to determine physical location. One would have been motivated to use the local enterprise generated signal to determine location in case it is difficult to use GPS for example where GPS broadcast wave cannot reach a GPS receiver.

As to claim 14:

Kyotoku, Kraft and Wall disclose the method of claim 13, Kyotoku further discloses the method wherein the local enterprise generated signal is confined to a single room ("clean room", paragraph 72).

Response to Amendment

11. The objection to the specification and the claim rejections under 35 U.S.C 112 in the first office action are withdrawn in view of Applicant's corrections.

12. The double patenting rejection against copending Application No. 10/698,719 is withdrawn because Application No. 10/698,719 is abandoned.

Response to Arguments

13. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 8 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

14. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Fan (US Patent 6,552,682) discloses a method of providing a GPS location of a client computer to a server via a network, and sending location relevant information (directions, coupons) to the client computer.

Becker, Jr. et al. (US Patent 6,931,131) discloses a method and system of determining the location of a computer using GPS, and allowing the computer access to certain information from a host system via a network provided the computer is within an authorized location.

15. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

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16. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Samuel G. Neway whose telephone number is 571-270-1058. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:30AM - 5:30PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tuan Q. Dam can be reached on 571-272-3695. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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